

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/895,886 filed on July 17, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,941,993, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/534,841 filed on September 27, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,889,938, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 07/859,850 filed on March 30, 1992, now U.S. Patent No. 5,495,572.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 23 and 25 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please amend claims 18-20, 22, 24, and 27-29 as follows:

*SAC*  
18. (Amended) An apparatus for storing data comprising:  
a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each of the data groups; and

a controller for performing processing of reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error correcting data;

wherein the controller determines a [degree of] preference to be given to the processing of reconstructing data.

*2*  
19. (Amended) An apparatus for storing data according to  
claim 18, wherein the controller determines the [degree of]  
preference based on a predetermined limit time.  
*B2*

*20*  
20. (Amended) An apparatus for storing data according to  
claim 19, wherein the controller performs the processing of  
reconstructing data instead of processing of data read/write  
requests from a host according to the [degree of] preference.

*22*  
22. (Amended) An apparatus for storing data comprising:  
a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality  
of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each  
of the data groups; and  
a controller for performing processing of  
reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in  
which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a  
corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error  
correcting data, and processing of data read/write requests  
from a host;  
wherein the controller controls a ratio of an amount  
of the processing of reconstructing data to an amount of the  
processing of data read/write requests[,] within a unit time.  
[and performs a processing according to the ratio based on a  
predetermined limit time.]

*SAC*  
24. (Amended) An apparatus for storing data comprising:  
a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality  
of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each  
of the data groups; and

*B4*  
a controller for performing processing of  
reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in  
which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a  
corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error  
correcting data, and processing of data read/write requests  
from a host;

wherein the controller controls [a ratio of] an  
amount of time for the processing of reconstructing data [to  
an amount of time for the processing of data read/write  
requests, and performs a processing according to the ratio]  
within a unit time based on a predetermined limit time.

*SAC*  
27. (Amended) An apparatus for storing data comprising:  
a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality  
of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each  
of the data groups; and

*B5*  
a controller for performing processing of  
reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in  
which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a  
corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error  
correcting data, and processing of data read/write requests  
from a host;

*10*  
*11*  
which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error correcting data, and processing of data read/write requests from a host;

wherein the controller performs the processing of reconstructing data instead of the processing of data read/write requests such that the processing of reconstructing data is completed within a fixed period of time.

Please add new claims 30-31 as follows:

*12*  
*13*  
--30. An apparatus for storing data comprising:  
a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each of the data groups; and

*14*  
a controller for performing processing of reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error correcting data, and processing of data read/write requests from a host;

wherein the controller gives a preference to the processing of data read/write requests and performs the processing of reconstructing data within a remaining time.